Panjgur IED blast kills one, injures 16

FC vehicle, believed to be the target, escapes unharmed

By Saleem Shahid

QUETTA: An improvised explosive device (IED) attack in Balochistan's Panjgur district on Monday killed one person and injured 16 others.

Panjgur Assistant Commissioner Amir Jan said the IED was planted on a motorbike and added that three of the injured are in serious condition. "Two children are also among the injured," he said.

According to police, a Frontier Corps vehicle, which was the probable target, escaped the attack unharmed, with all personnel safe. However, several shops and buildings were damaged in the blast.

Police identified the victim as Rasool Bakhsh. The injured include Amir Jan, Anwar, Muhammad Numma, Adam Khan, Sabir, Irshad, Sanaullah, Amir Ahmad, Zameer Ahmed, Muhammad Jan, Minhaj Zakir Shah, Tozeer Ahmed, and Bab Jan. The names of three other injured individuals could not be ascertained.

An investigation into the incident is underway. No group has claimed responsibility for the attack so far.

A senior local administration official, speaking on condition of anonymity, told *Dawn* that the IED-laden motorbike was parked near a pushcart in the main bazaar.

Another official explained that the blast appeared to have been triggered by remote control.

Despite record militant deaths, Pakistan saw a sharp escalation in militant violence in 2025. Terrorist attacks rose by 34 per cent, and terrorism-related fatalities increased by 21pc year on year, according to data released by the Islamabad-based Pak Institute for Peace Studies.

As many as 699 terrorist attacks were recorded countrywide during the year, resulting in at least 1,034 deaths and 1,366 injuries. This rising trend of militancy has persisted since the Taliban's takeover of Afghanistan in 2021.

Behram Baloch in Gwadar also contributed to this report.

TURBAT: Political activists and members of civil society take part in a demonstration against rising cases of kidnapping in Kech district.—Dawn

Protesters demand action on Kech kidnappings

Political leaders warn of district-wide strike

By Behram Baloch

GWADAR: Leaders and workers from different political parties, along with civil society members, staged a rally in Turbat town on Monday against the worsening law-and-order situation and the recent rise in kidnapping-for-ransom incidents in Kech district.

The rally was organised by All Parties Kech in collaboration with traders, the Doctors Association and civil society.

Marchers moved through main roads and streets of the district headquarters of Kech district, starting from Officer Bazaar, passing through various routes, reaching the Press Club and then proceeding to Shaheed Fida Chowk, where the march turned into a protest.

"The protection of citizens is the responsibility of the state and its institutions," National Party President Dr Abdul Malik Baloch said while describing the situation in Kech as "alarming."

Demonstrators demanded the recovery of two recently abducted youths, Haseeb Haji Yaseen and Shah Nawaz Gul Jan, and called on state institutions to protect citizens.

Mr Malik, while demanding the recovery, warned that attempts were once again being made to push Kech toward instability, but said the people of Kech would resist such efforts.

He urged the district administration to provide protection to citizens and said that for the past month, affected families and political leaders had approached relevant institutions, but each continued to shift responsibility to others.

All Parties Kech Convener Nawab Khan Shambezai announced that a district-wide strike would be observed on Jan 7 if the two youths did not return.

The Kech Bar Association boycotted court proceedings in solidarity with the families of the abducted.

Advocate Syed Majeed Shah, the association's president, condemned the kidnappings.

Business activities and daily life have been severely disrupted by the recent wave of crime, according to local leaders.

Mir Ghafoor Ahmed Bizenjo, a former minister, said that citizens were "living under a sense of fear" and called on the state to ensure public safety.

Human rights defenders and other speakers at the rally said the insecurity affects the entire Makran region, demanding an end to the kidnappings that have particularly targeted the business community.

Process to appoint NA Opp leader

Continued from Page 1

remains pending. Mr Ayub had challenged his disqualification in the Supreme Court (SC), but withdrew his plea in October last year and the election on the seat that fell vacant due to his disqualification was also held and won by PML-N candidate. For his part, Mr Sadiq had maintained that the matter related to appointment of a new opposition leader was "sub judice" — apparently a reference to Mr Ayub's appeal against his disqualification.

In its letter to Mr Dogar last month, the NA Secretariat stated that the opposition had mentioned in parliament that Mr Ayub's cases were not sub judice. "However, this fact was not conveyed to the secretariat in writing," the letter said, requesting that the current status of the cases in which the secretariat had been made a party be communicated to it in writing for completion of the "prescribed process of the declaration of leader of the opposition in the National Assembly".

Talking to reporters after his meeting with Mr Dogar, the NA Speaker confirmed the receipt of documents sought by him. Mr Sadiq said that four letters had been sent to the opposition's chief whip in this regard. He said that after the fourth letter, the opposition had submitted a certified copy of the decision.

"The constitutional process for the appointment of the next opposition leader will be initiated in the next parliamentary session," Mr Sadiq said. He said the process will move forward "after checking and verification of the signatures of the opposition members". He also said that the opposition had not yet made formal contact for initiating talks with the government.

"My role in the talks is only that of a facilitator," he said. He further said that the committee system in the lower house of parliament was fully functional as per constitutional requirements, adding that he was "completely independent" in his position.

Last month, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif had reiterated his offer for talks with the opposition but also emphasised the dialogue between the two sides could only proceed on "legitimate matters".

Subsequently, at a recent national conference organised by the Tehreek Tahafuz Ayeen-i-Pakistan opposition alliance, participants had agreed that the door for dialogue must never be closed in a democracy. The same day, political leaders from across the spectrum, including leaders from the ruling PML-N, called for dialogue and restraint to achieve stability in the country, saying that political confrontation was causing instability and violence.

BHC suspends notification giving justice of peace powers to officials

By Our Staff Correspondent

QUETTA: The Balochistan High Court on Monday suspended a provincial government's notification giving justice of peace powers to divisional and district administration officials.

A two-member BHC bench comprising Chief Justice Muhammad Kamran Mulakhail and Justice Gul Hassan Tareen ordered the suspension of the provincial government notification during the hearing of a petition filed by senior advocate Rahib Khan Buledi, chairman of executive committee of the Balochistan Bar Council, challenging the provincial government move.

Advocates Iftikhar Ahmed Langove and Abdul Baseer Kakar also filed similar petitions in the high court.

In their petitions, the petitioners challenged the notification issued by the Balochistan government on December 30, 2025, under Section 22 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC).

The notification appointed all divisional commissioners, additional commissioners, deputy commissioners, additional deputy commissioners, and assistant commissioners as Justices of Peace within their jurisdiction.

The notification also authorised them to perform functions under Sections 22-A and 22-B of the CrPC.

Counsel for the petitioners pleaded that the notification was issued unilaterally, without consultation or approval from the Chief Justice of Balochistan High Court, in violation of Articles 175(3), 202, and 203 of the Constitution.

They pointed out that under existing law, sessions judges and designated additional sessions judges already serve as ex-officio Justices of Peace, and that granting such judicial powers to executive officers undermines the constitutional principle of separation of powers and threatens the independence of the judiciary.

They further contended that although Section 22 of the CrPC allows the government to appoint Justices of Peace in rural areas, such appointments must follow proper rules defining their powers and limitations. They argued that the impugned notification has effectively created a parallel judicial system by vesting judicial authority in executive officials.

The BHC bench admitted petitions for hearing and issued notices to respondents, and ordered that the notification would stay suspended until the next hearing of the case.

It also directed that copies of the court order be sent to respondents and the office of the advocate general for information and compliance. The matter is expected to be taken up again after the winter vacation.

Section 144 extended in Quetta

QUETTA: The Balochistan government has extended Section 144 restrictions in Quetta through Jan 31, citing the "prevailing law and order situation".

The Balochistan Home Department issued a notification confirming the extension, which includes a ban on the display of weapons, public processions and the use of tinted vehicle windows.

The order prohibits public gatherings of five or more people. Authorities also banned the operation of unregistered motorcycles and the covering of faces in public using masks or mufflers. Pillion riding remains forbidden, though exceptions allow for the transportation of women and children. Violators will face legal action under Section 188 of the Pakistan Penal Code, according to the notification.—Staff Correspondent

Bail denied to Indian Muslim students

Continued from Page 1

pleas. "Treating all the accused identically will risk transforming pre-trial detention into a punitive mechanism divorced from individual circumstances. Prolonged custody disproportionately burdens those whose roles are limited," the judgement said.

The riots occurred amid months-long protests against a citizenship law that the United Nations called "fundamentally discriminatory". The judges said they were making a distinction between the charges that were levelled against Khalid and Imam from the others while denying them bail. The court added that the petitioners could apply for bail again only after one year. Khalid completed his PhD in 2019 from Delhi's Jawaharlal Nehru University. Imam was a doctoral scholar at the time of his arrest at the same university. Both men are 37.

The case of the jailed activists has attracted a lot of attention in India and globally. In October 2022, a former Supreme Court judge, three retired high court judges and a former federal home secretary wrote in a report on the riots that they found no substantiating evidence to warrant the imposition of terrorism charges against the activists.

The activists have so far been unable to get bail as they are charged with the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, or UAPA — a stringent anti-terror law that makes it exceptionally challenging to get bail and often results in years of detention until trial concludes.

Khalid's bail pleas have been rejected on at least five separate occasions in different courts over the past five years. He was granted two short outings in 2024 and 2025 to attend weddings in his family. Imam's bail pleas have been rejected at least twice before.

'Visible' action on Afghanistan-based terrorists sought

Continued from Page 1

which were an opportunity to consolidate bilateral friendship and expand new areas of cooperation.

Pakistan congratulated China on the "successful conclusion of the 14th Five-Year Plan and the upcoming 15th Five-Year Plan" under President Xi Jinping's leadership.

China commended Pakistani leadership on "leading the country to achieve macroeconomic stability" and lay a solid foundation for national economic growth centred on Pakistan's National Economic Transformation Plan (2024–2029), also called URAAN Pakistan.

Pakistan reiterated its firm commitment to the one-China principle, stating that Taiwan was an inalienable part of China's territory. It opposed any form of "Taiwan independence" as well as any "attempt to create 'two Chinas' or 'one China, one Taiwan".

Islamabad reaffirmed support for Beijing on issues concerning Xinjiang, Xizang, Hong Kong and the South China Sea.

They also called for pushing for the "building and operation of the Gwadar Port, smooth passage of the Karakoram Highway, and enhancing Pakistan's capacity for sustainable development".

It was decided that the two countries will "take the year-round opening of the Khunjerab Pass as an opportunity to deepen two-way trade and people-to-people exchanges".

They also agreed to "welcome third-party participation in CPEC cooperation that conforms with the modalities set by China and Pakistan".

The two sides "expressed satisfaction at their expanding space cooperation and for the expected early entrance of Pakistani astronauts into the China Space Station".

Kashmir dispute

The two sides also reaffirmed their commitment towards upholding UN principles and international law, vowing to "oppose the plotted resurgence of fascism and militarism".

Pakistan informed China of the latest developments in India-occupied Kashmir, with the latter reiterating that the dispute should be resolved "properly and peacefully in accordance with the UN Charter, relevant UN Security Council resolutions and bilateral agreements".

According to the communique, the two countries "expressed readiness to conduct trans-boundary water resources cooperation under the principle of equality and mutual benefit".

Pakistan and China further reiterated their readiness to further enhance cooperation under the frameworks of the Global Development Initiative.

They reaffirmed their commitment towards making the "global governance system more just and equitable, and join hands to build a community with a shared future for humanity".

Pakistan highly commended China's efforts to "safeguard developing countries' right to sustainable development".

The two sides expressed satisfaction over their cooperation within multilateral mechanisms such as the UN and the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO).

China also voiced its "full support for Pakistan to work as the rotating president of the SCO from 2026 to 2027".

Palestinian state

On the issue of Palestine, Pakistan and China called for an "unconditional, comprehensive and permanent ceasefire in Gaza" and stressed the significance of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination.

The two countries called for the "implementation of the two-state solution with the establishment of an independent state of Palestine".

"The two sides also expressed their concern at the situation in the occupied West Bank, and urged the need for urgently addressing it," the communique said.

"The two sides agreed to hold the next round of Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue in Islamabad next year on mutually convenient dates," it concluded.

Intel agencies, CTD

Continued from Page 1

operation had been going on for several weeks before they finally made a breakthrough. The police officials said three suspects were also in custody in connection with the plot, and an investigation was already underway.

Sharing details of the operation, DIG Mahesar said they had arrested a suspect on a tip-off provided by an intelligence agency, and the arrest led the police to two more suspects, who were arrested from Rais Goth on Sunday night.

The DIG said the suspects had rented a house about 40km from the city, adding that the action to apprehend them had been kept secret to avoid panic among the citizens. However, they were monitored with the help of hi-tech equipment.

During initial interrogation, the suspects reportedly revealed that they were affiliated with the proscribed Majeed Brigade outfit of the Balochistan Liberation Army, led by Commander Bashir Zeb.

According to the officials, the suspects had obtained the explosive material from Afghanistan, which was brought to Balochistan, and then to Karachi — covering a distance of at least 1,000km.

"We have evidence that this network was being operated from a neighbouring country," said the DIG, adding that these militants had planned this terror plot to "further the interests of India".

"Indian proxies namely BLA and BLF were using safe havens in Afghanistan," he claimed.

According to the counter-terror force official, urea fertiliser was also being used to make explosive material, adding that their priority was to break the supply chain of this material.

The official also hinted at an operation to inspect rented properties, saying that terrorists were using such homes to prepare explosive material. DIG Mahesar also called for the strict implementation of laws against 'illegal use' of fertilisers and other chemicals.

In response to a question about the possible target, AIG Larik said investigations were underway to determine that, adding that Karachi was being targeted as it is the economic hub of the country.

NOTICE OF EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETINGS OF ALLIANCE SUGAR MILLS LIMITED & RYK MILLS LIMITED

Scheme of Arrangement under Sections 279 to 282 of the Companies Act, 2017 involving Alliance Sugar Mills Limited, RYK Mills Limited and their respective shareholders

The honourable Lahore High Court, Lahore vide the order dated 16 December 2025 passed in C.O. No. 74937 of 2025, has directed to hold the Extraordinary General Meetings ("**EOGMs**") of the members of **Alliance Sugar Mills Limited & RYK Mills Limited** to consider and if thought fit approve, adopt and agree to the Scheme of Arrangement and to pass or otherwise the following resolution with or without modification:

Resolved unanimously, "Scheme of Arrangement under Sections 279 to 282 of the Companies Act, 2017 involving Alliance Sugar Mills Limited, RYK Mills Limited and their respective shareholders put before the meeting be and is hereby agreed, approved and adopted, subject to any modification which may be required by the honourable Lahore High Court".

In compliance to the above order of the honourable Lahore High Court, this **NOTICE** is hereby given that the EOGMs of the members of the respective companies will be held on **17 January 2026 (Saturday)**, as follows:

Name	Venue	Time
i.Alliance Sugar Mills Limited	75/4-D, Sarfraz Rafiqui Road, Lahore Cantt., Lahore	01:00 PM
ii.RYK Mills Limited	75/4-D, Sarfraz Rafiqui Road, Lahore Cantt., Lahore	12:30 PM

The Chairpersons for the Extraordinary General Meetings appointed by the honourable Lahore High Court, Lahore

Barrister Haroon Dugal, **Advocate Supreme Court** **Office No. 6/7, Lower Ground Floor, Sir Ganga Ram Trust Building, Mozang Chungi, Lahore**	**Mr. Usman G. Rashid** **Advocate Supreme Court** **1-Turner Road, Lahore**

Dated: 06 January 2026

Notes:

1. The statement under section 281 of the Companies Act, 2017 ("**Act**") read with the statement of material facts under section 134(3) of the Act ("**Statement**") setting forth, *inter alia*, the terms of the Arrangement and explaining its effect, along with a copy of the Scheme of Arrangement are being circulated along with the Notice of the EOGM to the members and other person(s), entitled to receive Notice of the EOGM.
2. Copies of the Scheme of Arrangement under sections 279 to 282 of the Act, recent audited accounts of the companies along with the necessary financial details, memorandum and articles of association, requisite approvals and any other related information/documents may also be inspected/procured during the business hours on any working day at the Registered Office of the Companies i.e. 3-B, Nisar Road, Nisar Colony, Lahore Cantt., Lahore & 75/4-D, Sarfraz Rafiqui Road, Lahore Cantt., from the date of publication of this Notice till the conclusion of the EOGM. In case of any difficulty, the same should be immediately brought to the notice of the mentioned Chairpersons.
3. A member eligible to attend and vote at this meeting may appoint another member as proxy to attend and vote in the EOGM. Proxies in order to be effective must be received by the Company at the Registered Office not later than 48 hours before the time for holding the EOGM.
4. The members register will remain closed from 11 January 2026 till 17 January 2026 (both days inclusive). Transfers received at the Registered Office of the companies, by the close of business hours on 10 January 2026 will be entertained.

Oil & Gas Development Company Limited

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EXTENSION IN BID CLOSING & OPENING DATE

Reference our Tender Notice(s) published in newspapers on **21.11.2025, 05.12.2025** and **20.12.2025,** it is notified that the bid submission/opening dates of the following cases are extended as follows:

SR #	TENDER NO	DESCRIPTION	REVISED CLOSING DATE & TIME
1.	OGDCL-SCM-SERVICES-CB-PROD-306827793-2025	CAMP SERVICES FOR KUNNAR KPD-TAY FIELD, HYDERABAD SINDH	12.01.2026 AT 1030 HRS
2.	OGDCL-SCM-SERVICES-CB-PROD-306822574-2025	CAMP SERVICES FOR NASHPA FIELD, KARAK KPK	13.01.2026 AT 1030 HRS
3.	OGDCL-SCM-SERVICES-CB-PROD-306825451-2025	CAMP SERVICES FOR QADIRPUR FIELD, DISTRICT GHOTKI SINDH	14.01.2026 AT 1030 HRS
4.	OGDCL-SCM-SERVICES-CB-PROD-306827132-2025	CAMP SERVICES FOR SINJHORO FIELD, SINDH	15.01.2026 AT 1030 HRS
5.	OGDCL-FB-CB-PROD-302369137-2025	CEMENTING AND CIRCULATING HOSES	19.01.2026 AT 1100 HRS
6.	OGDCL-SCM-FA-CB-DS-305085497-2025	PARTIALLY HYDROLYZED POLY ACRYLAMIDE (PHPA)	21.01.2026 AT 1100 HRS

2. Bidders who have already submitted/ sent their proposals (bids) may take them back and re-submit the same before the revised closing date and time mentioned above.
3. All bids will be opened 30 minutes after the bids closing date & time.
4. Tender Notice/ detailed instructions are available on PPRA website at **www.ppra.org.pk.**
5. Tender documents are available online and bids are also required to be submitted online through e-procurement portal at **https://ogdcl.com/sap-ariba-tenders** or **https://discovery.ariba.com/profile/AN01562899621.** For details see "Instruction for Bidders Section" of the tender documents.
6. OGDCL reserves the right to accept or reject any bid and to annul the bidding process and reject all the bids as per Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) Rule-33.

General Manager
(Supply Chain Management)
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